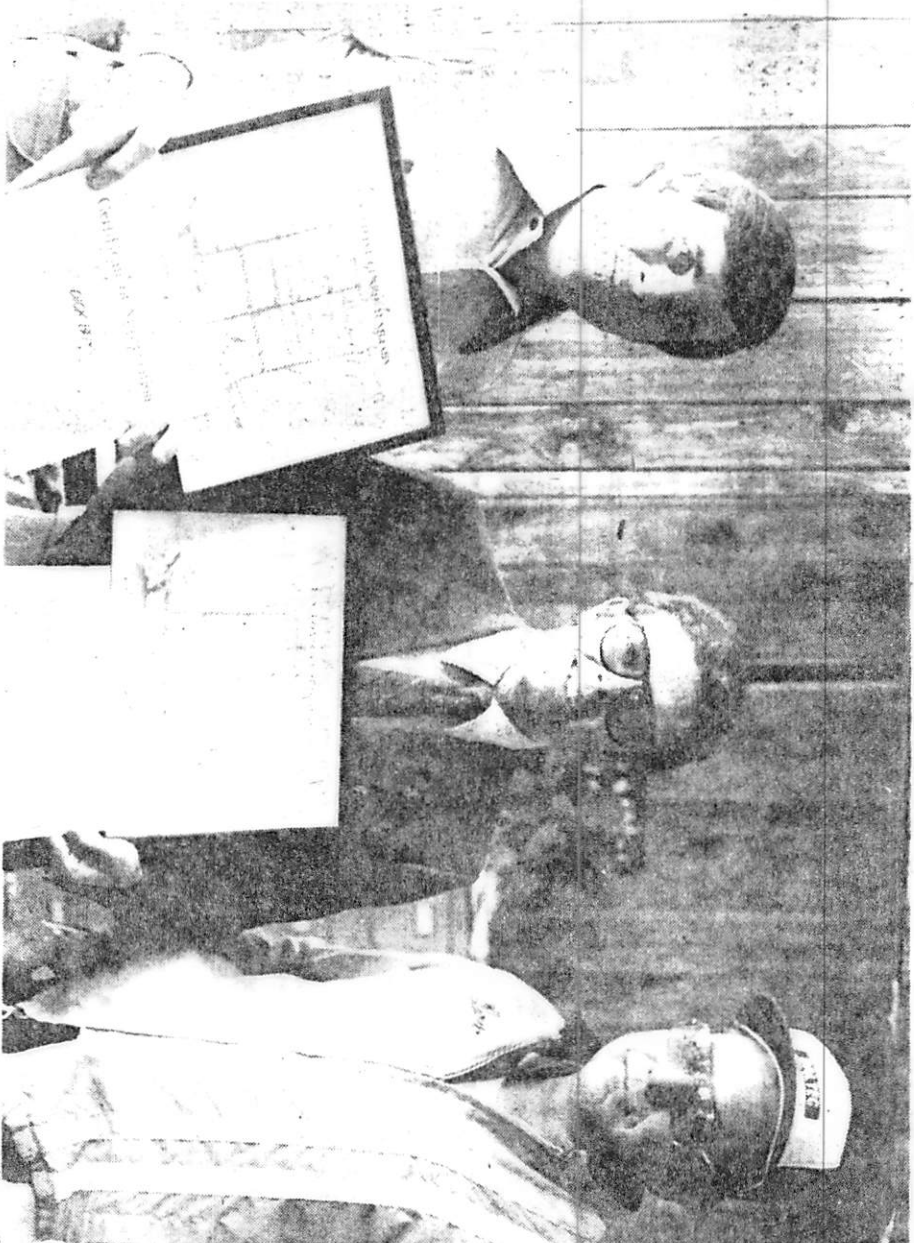


Wasatch Wave Heber City, UT 84032 Thursday, December 27, 1984 5A



Larry Winterton (right), Coast Guard Auxiliary Commander, presented Dick Buys, Publisher, and Doug Pope, of KLVN Radio, with plaques for their participation in the Boating Safety Campaign held in Heber Valley.

Go ahead: Make Our Day

Publisher

Luckily, the only thing Heber has in common with Beaver, is that the two towns rhythm. The city council there has a few things to learn about law, constitutional history and plain common sense. Just recently the council voted to oust a reporter from one of its meetings, because of the way he reported the news. They voted to continue the expulsion until he learned to "cover things right."

In Heber we have never been expelled from a public meeting for any reason. We have been criticized for quoting an official—in essence for doing our job. One man once criticized us for the way our hyphenation program left spaces on both sides of his name in a story. He said it drew too much attention to his name, and seemed to imply guilt by conspicuousness. But luckily that's been the extent of it. It's simple: city councils and county commissions can't boycott the press.

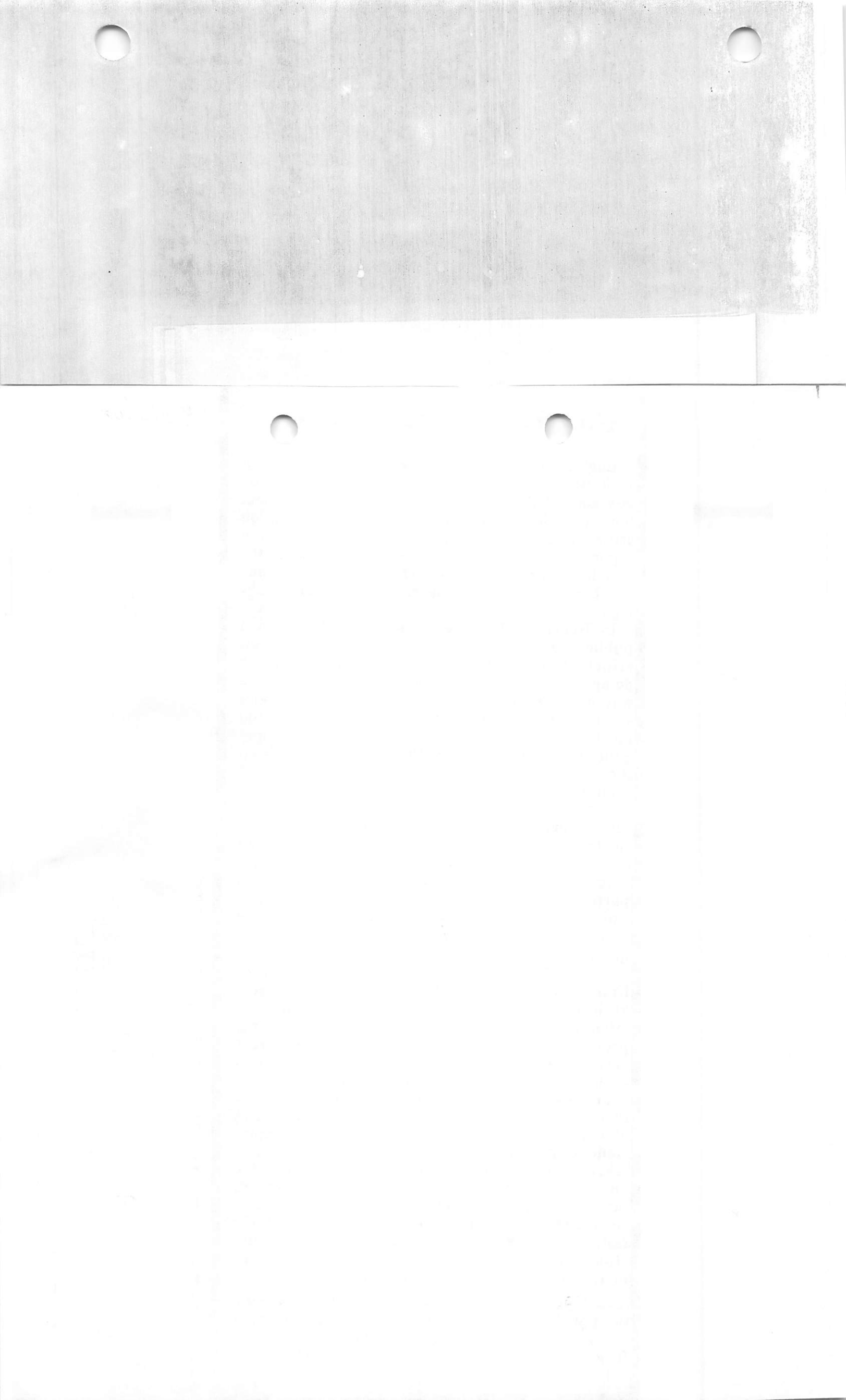
The Utah Open Meeting's act is what makes such a move impossible. Men who run and are elected to public office generally are those who are used to conducting their business in private—either with positions in the church or as participants in the local business community. It can be a rude awakening to enter the world of public service, where every spoken word can be quoted or every action scrutinized. In essence they quickly learn that the community press is the first and most important check that insures against a misuse of power. The nature of this relationship doesn't lead to love affairs between the press and public officials—rather a tension—that acts much as an electrical current to keep government responsive to its constituency.

Luckily the power of law still overrides the individual whims of men. The Open Meetings Act allows closed meetings under only select circumstances and no where can such an action as was taken in Beaver be justified. Officials can't kick out a reporter simply because of the way he does his job. That can't even kick him out if he exercises a reckless disregard for the truth. That's the faith a few wise men had in robust discussion—for laying public business on the block—and believing the truth would win out.

Luckily our officials have come to grips with the law, but if somewhere in time an elected official looks to emulate the council in Milford—well—just go ahead: Make our day!

t
r
t

n
s
N
h
o
tl
n
c
N
d
c
N
C
o
tl
C
o
i
u
o
u
u
ti
v
li
p
h
a
h
h





Coloring Contest Winner

Alan Day (left) and Dick Buys (right) present Cicily Prescott, 4-year-old from Kamas, with a crisp new five dollar bill after she won second place in the 2-4 Age Group category of the Day's Thriftway/Wave Publishing Christmas Coloring Contest. The response was terrific with some really unique entries. Other winners were: Age Group 8-10 - Rachel Anderberg, \$10 and Joshua Wright, \$5, Honorable Mention - Brittany Woody; Age Group 5-7 - Heidi Dudley, \$10, and Matt Crittenden, \$5; First place winner in the 2-4 year Age Group was Shane Meeham, \$10.

Holiday Trash Pickup Schedule

Garbage will be picked up through Saturday during the weeks following Christmas and New Year's.

Your pickup day will be the day after your regular pickup day. Please get your trash out early. Trucks start at 6 a.m.

A special Christmas tree pickup will be provided the week following New Year's on the same day your trash is picked up.

If you have more trash than your cart will hold, you may deliver it to the transfer station at 3000 South Highway 189 Tuesday through Saturday the week after Christmas and New Year's. If you need assistance with trash disposal, please call Auto-Cart from 8 to 5 p.m., 654-3448.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.